

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE, MORNING, WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 28

NO. 23

NEWSPAPERS

1. NYTIMES - KAUFMANN: SECRETARY KISSINGER TODAY ADVANCED
A PROGRAM OF AMERICAN ACTIONS INTENDED TO FORCE THE WHITE
MINORITY GOVERNMENT OF RHODESIA TO ACCEPT MAJORITY RULE.
... THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PROPOSALS OR AT LEAST THOSE THAT
MANY AFRICAN LEADERS FEEL CAN MOST READILY BRING RESULTS,
CONCERNED THE USE OF US POWER TO INSURE STRICT WORLD-WIDE
OBSERVANCE OF THE UN SANCTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN WIDELY
VIOLATED. ... IN TERMS OF THE ECONOMIC CAMPAIGN AGAINST
RHODESIA, SOUTH AFRICA HOLDS THE KEY. EVEN BEFORE KISSINGER
LEFT WASHINGTON HE COMMUNICATED TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS THE
FUNDAMENTALS OF THE POLICY THAT HE UNVEILED HERE TODAY.
HE HAS NOT SOUGHT OR RECEIVED THEIR RESPONSE. ... ON THE
QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA, KISSINGER SOUGHT AS HE HAS
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SEVERAL TIMES ON THIS TRIP TO DIFFERENTIATE ITS POSITION

AND PROBLEMS FROM THOSE OF RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA.

2. WASHPOST - MARDER: KISSINGER GAVE THE MOST SPECIFIC PLEDGES THAT THE US EVER HAS MADE TO THIS CONTINENT IN A TEN-POINT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO PROVE THAT US REGARDS AFRICA AS "A TESTING GROUND OF THE WORLD'S CONSCIENCE AND VISION." ABOVE ALL, THE UNEXPECTEDLY DETAILED PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO CHECKMATE AND EVEN ROLL BACK THE COMMUNIST PENETRATION OF AFRICA.

... SOVIET UNION IS ACTIVELY WORKING TO UNDERCUT SECRETARY OF STATE'S AFRICA TOUR.

... KISSINGER PLEDGED TOUGH, TANGIBLE US ACTIONS TO HELP FORCE A VICTORY FOR "MAJORITY RULE" IN RHODESIA.

... THE PACKAGE IS BOUND TO HAVE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL IMPLICATIONS, AND AMERICAN POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES AS WELL, AND IS LIKELY TO BECOME AN ISSUE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN. KAUNDA HAILED THE OFFER AS "AN IMPORTANT TURNING POINT IN AFRICA'S HISTORY."

... AN IMMEDIATE CHALLENGE TO THE NEWEST AMERICAN VENTURE IN AFRICA CAME HOURS AFTER KISSINGER'S PRESENTATION, WITH THE GHANAIAN CANCELLATION OF KISSINGER'S VISIT TO THAT COUNTRY.

... THE PRESIDENT (FORD) IS SAID TO BE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO ITS SUPPORT, PRESUMABLY AFTER WEIGHING THE POLITICAL RISK OF FACING CHARGES THAT HE HAS GONE TOO FAR TO PLACATE AFRICA'S BLACKS.

... KISSINGER EXPLAINED THE PLAN IN ADVANCE TO SEVERAL INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, INCLUDING HUMPHREY.

... NEITHER KISSINGER NOR NKOMO REVEALED THE DETAILS OF THEIR TALKS.

... HUMPHREY SAID KISSINGER'S SPEECH "FINALLY ENDS THE DRIFT IN AFRICAN POLICY OF THE US. HE HAS GIVEN A CLEAR UNCLASSIFIED

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SIGNAL TO THE WORLD AND THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA THAT THE US SUPPORTS SPEEDY EVOLUTION TOWARDS MAJORITY RULE IN THE WHITE-DOMINATED REGIMES OF RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA."

3. LOSANGELES TIMES - JOHNSTON: SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER TUESDAY COMMITTED THE FORD ADMINISTRATION TO A PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC, DIPLOMATIC AND MORAL PRESSURE ON THE

WHITE MINORITY REGIME IN RHODESIA TO YIELD POWER TO THE BLACK MAJORITY BEFORE A RACE WAR CONSUMES SOUTHERN AFRICA.

... KISSINGER, IN EFFECT, DECLARED WHAT AMOUNTS TO A DIPLOMATIC QUARANTINE AGAINST IAN SMITH'S RHODESIAN REGIME.

... THE SPEECH WAS SALTED WITH RHETORICAL EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE BLACK MAJORITY IN RHODESIA, BUT THE PROGRAM FELL FAR SHORT OF OFFERING MATERIAL SUPPORT TO BLACK NATIONALIST FORCES NOW WAGING GUERRILLA WARFARE THERE.

... THE FACT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S NEW AFRICAN POLICY WAS ANNOUNCED JUST FOUR DAYS BEFORE THE TEXAS PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY WAS NOT LOST ON KISSINGER OR HIS AIDES. RHODESIA PRIMARILY AND SOUTH AFRICA SECONDARILY ARE FAVORITE CAUSES OF RIGHT-WING REPUBLICANS WHO SUPPORT REAGAN.

... MAJOR US INDUSTRIAL FIRMS, WHICH HAVE IN THE PAST SUPPORTED REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES, ALSO HAVE LARGE INTERESTS IN BOTH PLACES. NEVERTHELESS, OFFICIALS INSISTED THAT KISSINGER HAD CAREFULLY CLEARED ALL 10 POINTS OF HIS PROGRAM PERSONALLY WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN TWO-HOUR LONG SESSIONS AND THAT BOTH THE CABINET AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAD BEEN FULLY INFORMED.

... KAUNDA EMBRACED KISSINGER AND MOUNTED THE PODIUM TO DECLARE IT "OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE ... AN IMPORTANT TURNING POINT ... WE COULDN'T BELIEVE THIS WAS A SECRETARY OF STATE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C." EARLIER KISSINGER MET WITH NKOMO. KISSINGER RELAYED TO HIM THE GIST OF THE US PROGRAM AND PROMISED TO MAINTAIN CONTACTS WITH HIM.

... IN PROMISING TO PRESS REPEAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT,
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THE ADMINISTRATION IS TAKING A CALCULATED RISK ESPECIALLY IN AN ELECTION YEAR. IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE AMENDMENT WAS VIRTUALLY DRAFTED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF MAJOR MINING AND METALLURGICAL COMPANIES, WHICH HAVE BEEN GOP SUPPORTERS IN THE PAST. ACCORDINGLY, ACTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA - IF IT OCCURS - IS CERTAIN TO STEP ON MANY CORPORATE TOES.

... KISSINGER MADE A BRIEF TRIP TO VICTORIA FALLS. URGED BY REPORTERS, KISSINGER TOOK TWO ADDITIONAL STEPS THAT PUT HIM ON THE RHODESIAN SIDE OF THE BRIDGE AND REMARKED "I HAVE BEEN IN RHODESIA BEFORE." THAT WAS AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN IN 1961.

4. HEARST - WALLACH (BALTIMORE NEWS AMERICAN, APRIL 27):

KISSINGER OUTLINED A HARD-HITTING 10-POINT PROGRAM THROWING THE FULL WEIGHT OF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION BEHIND THE AFRICAN LIBERATION STRUGGLE FOR MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA. ...AT THE SAME TIME KISSINGER WARNED THE SOVIET UNION ... AT THE SAME TIME KISSINGER WARNED THE SOVIET UNION

THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE HEGEMONY IN AFRICA "WILL BE COUNTERED" BY THE US.

... THE US PROGRAM, CERTAIN TO BECOME A POLITICAL FOOTBALL IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN, FOR THE FIRST TIME SERVED NOTICE THAT THE US WILL NOT DEFEND WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT AND WILL USE ITS CLOUT WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND WESTERN INDUSTRIAL NATIONS TO CLOSE TRADE LOOPHOLES WITH RHODESIA.

WIRES

1. AP - SCHWEID: GOVERNMENT OF GHANA CALLED OFF KISSINGER VISIT ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AND US OFFICIALS BLAME SOVIET DIPLOMATS. ONE MEMBER OF KISSINGER'S STAFF SAID A FORMAL PROTEST TO MOSCOW WAS CONTEMPLATED.

... THE CANCELLATION WAS THE SECOND FOR THE SECRETARY'S FIRST AFRICAN TOUR.

... OFFICIALS SAID KISSINGER MIGHT ASK MRS. BLACK TO MEET UNCLASSIFIED

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HIM FRIDAY IN LIBERIA FOR A REPORT ON THE SITUATION IN GHANA. HE HAD EXPECTED TO DISCUSS A COMMODITY AGREEMENT WITH THE GHANAIS TO PROTECT THEIR COCOA CROP FROM FLUCTUATIONS IN WORLD PRICES.

2. UPI - ANDERSON: BEFORE THE "WORKING CRUISE" KISSINGER MET WITH MOBUTU AT THE PALACE AND EARLIER HAD WORKING BREAKFAST WITH ZAIRE'S COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS. OFFICIALS GAVE NO IMMEDIATE DETAILS OF THE TALKS.

... WARM CORDIALITY MARKED KISSINGER'S VISIT TO ZAIRE FROM THE MOMENT HE ARRIVED.

... APART FROM A BRIEF RIFT LAST YEAR, US-ZAIRE RELATIONS HAVE BEEN CORDIAL SINCE THE FORMER BELGIAN COLONY BECAME INDEPENDENT IN 1960.

3. UPI - ANDERSON: SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER HAS CANCELLED A TRIP TO GHANA BECAUSE OF ALLEGEDLY SOVIET - INSPIRED STUDENT UNREST.

... US OFFICIALS CONCEDED THE CANCELLATION WOULD BE "AN

EMBARRASSMENT TO KISSINGER AND US BUT ADDED: "WE ARE MATURE AND THIS WON'T AFFECT THE BASIC DESIGN OF US FOREIGN POLICY." US OFFICIALS SAID "WE KNOW FOR A FACT THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN AGITATING WITH THE GHANAIAI GOVERNMENT AND STUDENTS OVER THE VISIT AND WE ARE PLANNING A PROTEST OVER THE SOVIET ACTIVITY."

4. NO REUTERS WIRE COPY REPORTED.

NETWORKS

1. BERNIE KALB, WTOP RADIO (WITH LAURA WALTERS):

WALTERS: SINCE 5:00 AM WASHINGTON TIME, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER HAS BEEN TALKING WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU SESE SECO OF ZAIRE. HOWEVER, CBS CORRESPONDENT BERNARD KALB TELLS US THAT ANOTHER PLANNED STOP ON KISSINGER'S AFRICAN TOUR, GHANA, HAS BEEN CANCELLED. AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE LONG ARM OF THE KREMLIN MAY HAVE ADMINISTERED THE SLAP IN THE FACE.
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KALB: THE CANCELLATION CAME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE, THE NEWS REACHING KISSINGER ONLY A FEW MINUTES BEFORE HIS PLANE LANDED HERE IN KINSHASA. US OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY KNEW FOR A FACT THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD BEEN AGITATING WITH THE GHANAIAI GOVERNMENT AND WITH THE GHANAIAI STUDENTS ABOUT THE VISIT, AND THE US WAS PLANNING TO PROTEST THESE ACTIONS. THERE WAS NO INCLINATION AMONG US OFFICIALS TO SEE THE GHANAIAI CANCELLATION AS A NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE NEW US POLICY TOWARD AFRICA ENUNCIATED BY KISSINGER EARLIER IN THE DAY IN ZAMBIA. IT IS NO SECRET THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE KISSINGER DIPLOMATIC SAFARI THROUGH BLACK AFRICA, HAVE INDEED, SO FAR AS US OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED, BEEN WORKING AGAINST THE TRIP. THE OFFICIAL REASON GIVEN BY GHANA FOR THE CANCELLATION WAS THE POOR HEALTH OF THE COUNTRY'S HEAD OF STATE.

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